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In the *Principles* by Bergen and Davis, 1906, there were 36 pages given to plant-breeding and economic botany. In the present manual, the same material is extended so as to make 45 pages, divided into three chapters: plant-breeding, useful plants, and forestry. These three chapters are merely good reading-matter. Elsewhere in this book are evidences of an attempt to meet the present popular demand for practical things in the schools. This is shown in the selection of plants used for study. If the present cry for "practical botany" and "agriculture" in the schools is satisfied with such a response as is furnished by this manual, the teacher's task will not be notably increased. In the reviewer's opinion, Mr. Bergen has done well in not attempting directions for practical plant-breeding or agriculture. If ecology has proved too difficult for the pupil, much more will plant-breeding and agriculture be found too difficult. It may be that when schools are provided with gardens and gardeners some elementary agriculture may be taught; but plant-breeding is for the student already trained in years of botany.

With the exception of the physiology, the book may be commended to the schools.

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*The Freshwater Aquarium and its Inhabitants.* A guide for the amateur aquarist. By OTTO EGGLING AND FREDERICK EHRENBURG. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1908. Pp. 352. \$2.00.

Combining a delightful story of the adaptive habits of the finny denizens of the ponds and streams with a fund of necessary information regarding the care and study of these creatures in artificial but natural environment, this book proves itself worthy a place in the "Nature Series" of which it is a member. It contains about a hundred reproductions of exceptionally fine photographs of living water-plants, fishes, turtles, and other possible inhabitants of the aquarium. The authors have treated of practically all of the native and imported species suitable for aquarium cultivation, with scientific names, photographs *in situ*, and accurate descriptions, by means of which even the amateur may identify the members of his collection. The ecology of each plant and animal is so treated as to guide the aquarist in providing a satisfactory environment for each. The charm of the book lies in the lucid descriptions of the interesting and peculiar habits of the various creatures. In this respect this book should prove an incentive to a more widespread observation of aquatic life. The closing chapters deal with the management of aquaria, explaining not only the things that should be done but also the many errors of mismanagement. In their treatment of diseases the authors have properly placed the emphasis on prevention rather than on cure.

While this book is scientific its phraseology is such that the youthful student or aquarist can read it without difficulty and with keen interest.

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